# America in the Cold War

History 464
Spring 2013
Thursdays 2:30-5:30
Instructor: Allen Matusow
Huma 332; ext 5275
matusow@rice.edu
Office Hours: 2:00-3:30 Tues.

Jan. 10 Introduction

Jan 17 Fredrik Logevall, Embers of War, Parts 1,2.

Jan 24 Fredrik Logevall, Embers of War, Parts 4,5.

Jan 31 Robert S. McNamara, In Retrospect: The Tragedy and Lessons of Vietnam, chs. 2, 3, 5, 7,9,10, 11.

Feb. 7 Guenter Lewy, America in Vietnam, ch. 1-5.

Feb 14 Larry Berman, No Peace, No Honor: Nixon, Kissinger, and Betrayal in Vietnam, chs. 1-13.

Feb 21 Film: Fog of War

Mar. 2 (Saturday) **Papers Due**

Mar. 7 PAPER CRITQUES

Mar. 14 Kenneth Pollack, The Pleasure Puzzle: The Conflict between Iran and America, chs.1-7

Mar. 21 Steve Coll, Ghost Wars: The Secret History of CIA, Afghanistan, and bin Laden, Prologue and chs. 1-10.

Mar 28 George Packer, The Assassin's Gate: America in Iraq, chs.1-6.

Apr. 4 Student presentations

Apr. 11 Student presentations

April 13 Papers Due: (Saturday)

Apr 19 PAPER CTITQUES

**REQUIREMENTS**:

I. Students will write two short research papers (7-8 pages) using contemporary documents. The subject of the first paper will be some aspect of the Vietnam War.

The subject of the second paper will be some aspect of the Cold War. Suggested topics will be provided.

II. Students will submit brief papers (i.e. two pages), reflecting on the weekly readings. Papers are due on the day of discussion.

Expected learning outcomes: Students will research and write history, improve their prose, and learn something about American foreign policy

Any student with a documented disability seeking academic adjustments or accommodations is requested to speak with me during the first two weeks of class. All such discussions will remain as confidential as possible. Students with disabilities will need to also contact Disability Support Services in the Allen Center.